

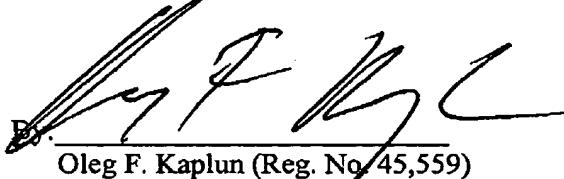
REMARKS

Claims 2-7, 10, 12, 19 and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13, 18 and 21 have been amended. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13 - 18 and 21 are now pending in the present application. In view of the above amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all of the now pending claims are allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 6 and 7; and claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 1 and 10. In addition, claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 1, 12, and claim 13 has been amended to correct typographical errors. Claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 19. Claim 21 has been amended to correct typographical errors. Each of the independent claims (1, 9, 11, 15 and 18) now includes subject matter deemed allowable and is in condition for allowance. Because claims 8, 13, 14 and 21 depends from and, therefore, includes the limitations of one of these independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that these independent claims are also allowable.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the now pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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